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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS
AT LAUNCH COMPLEX G
TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER, USSR

NPIC/R-288/63

November 1963

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

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NPIC/R-288/63

INTRODUCTION

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This report is in answer to CIA/OSI requirement C-SI3-80,360, which requests an updating of NPIC/R-85/63 1/--which reported all details of Launch Complex G through Mission [] and the inclusion of mission-by-mission sketches of the complex during the construction phase. The requirement also asked for further information on the unidentified areas east and west of the launch complex. To

satisfy this requirement, nine line drawings (Figures 1-9) have been prepared. It should be noted that these drawings show details as imaged on the photography from which each was made and are not intended to be cumulative. For this reason, it should not be considered that an item shown on one drawing has changed or been removed if it is not shown on a drawing based on later photography.

LAUNCH COMPLEX G

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Certain small details shown on Figure 5, based on Mission [] differ from previously published drawings. These differences are the result of continued study. Otherwise, except as follows, neither the text nor the dimensions in R-85/63 need be altered or amplified:

1. The length of the missile-ready building behind launch pad G1 is 210 feet, not 140 feet.
2. The exact configuration of the electronics facility (Figure 5) has not been determined. Accurate determination of its physical characteristics will depend on future photographic coverage.

3. The assembly and checkout building was under construction as early as []

The photographic coverage of Launch Complex G from [] was not of the high quality of [] and was lacking in detail. Interpretation of the [] photography was further hampered by clouds, haze, and cloud shadow. No significant change in the launch area was noted, but a probable cylindrical tank approximately 70 feet in diameter has been placed in the excavation forward of the left bunkered building next to launch pad G1.

AREAS OF UNIDENTIFIED ACTIVITY

The following changes have been noted in the areas of unidentified activity west of Complex G: the surfacing of the access road to the areas, the construction of several small buildings, partial fencing of the western area, and revetting of at least two buildings in the group on the south side of the road (Figure 8).

Evidence of the unidentified activity east of Complex G was noted on [] Grading for a possible rail line extended east from the main rail line at a point just north of the support area. Also, grading for a road extended east from the main access road at a point on the east side of the support area. As seen on Mission

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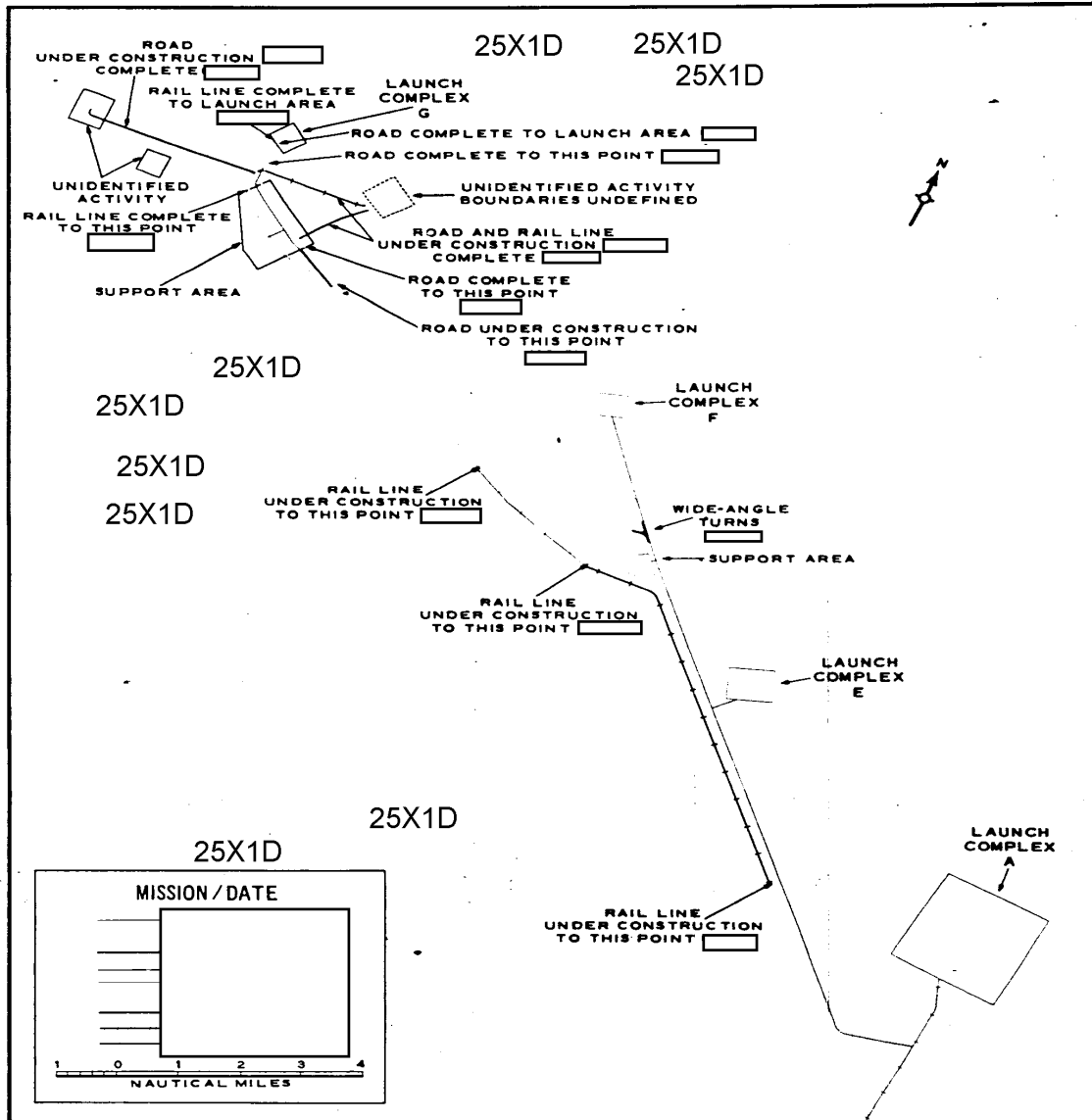


FIGURE 1. CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS OF RAIL AND ROAD FACILITIES SERVING LAUNCH COMPLEX G.

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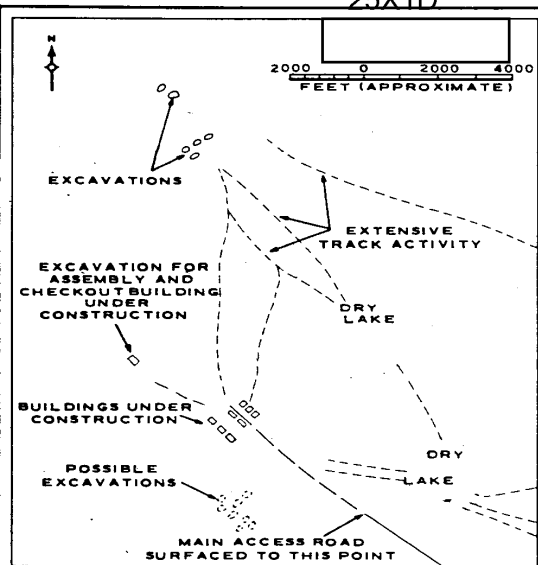
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photography, the rail line and road were complete for approximately one nautical mile and still under construction for another nautical mile, to a point where they converged in a recently graded area that contained several probable structures under construction (Figure 9). By the end of the rail line and road had been completed to the graded construction area.

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This area of unidentified activity is roughly rectangular, with its limits partly formed by probable ditching. The long axis of the rectangle is parallel to that of the launch area of Complex G. In the rectangular area are two shallow excavations whose limits are indistinct and a linear excavation containing a probable building under construction. The rail line may extend to one of the shallow excavations.

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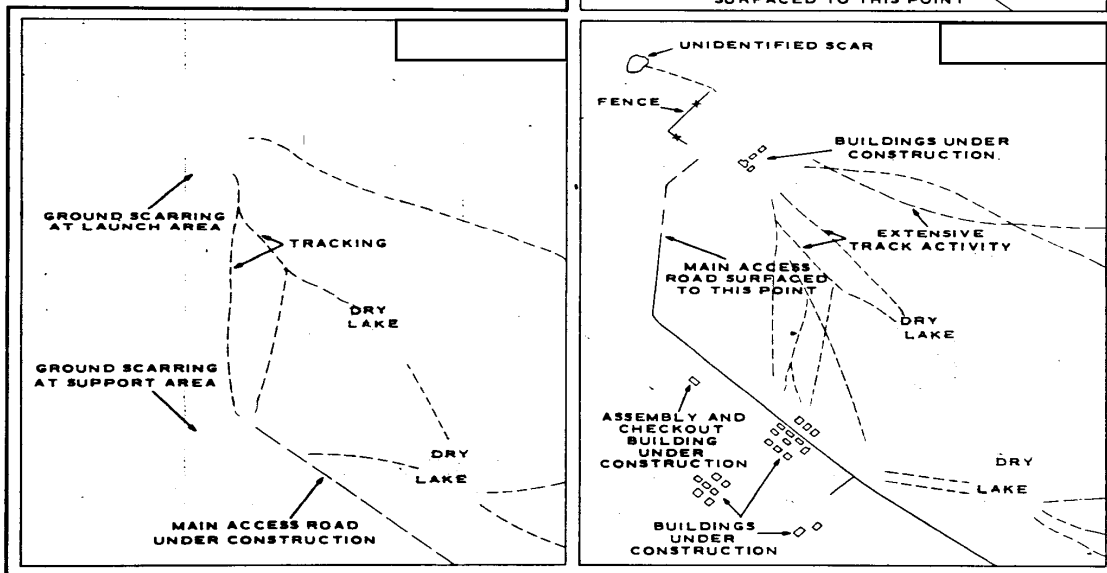


FIGURE 2. CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS, LATE

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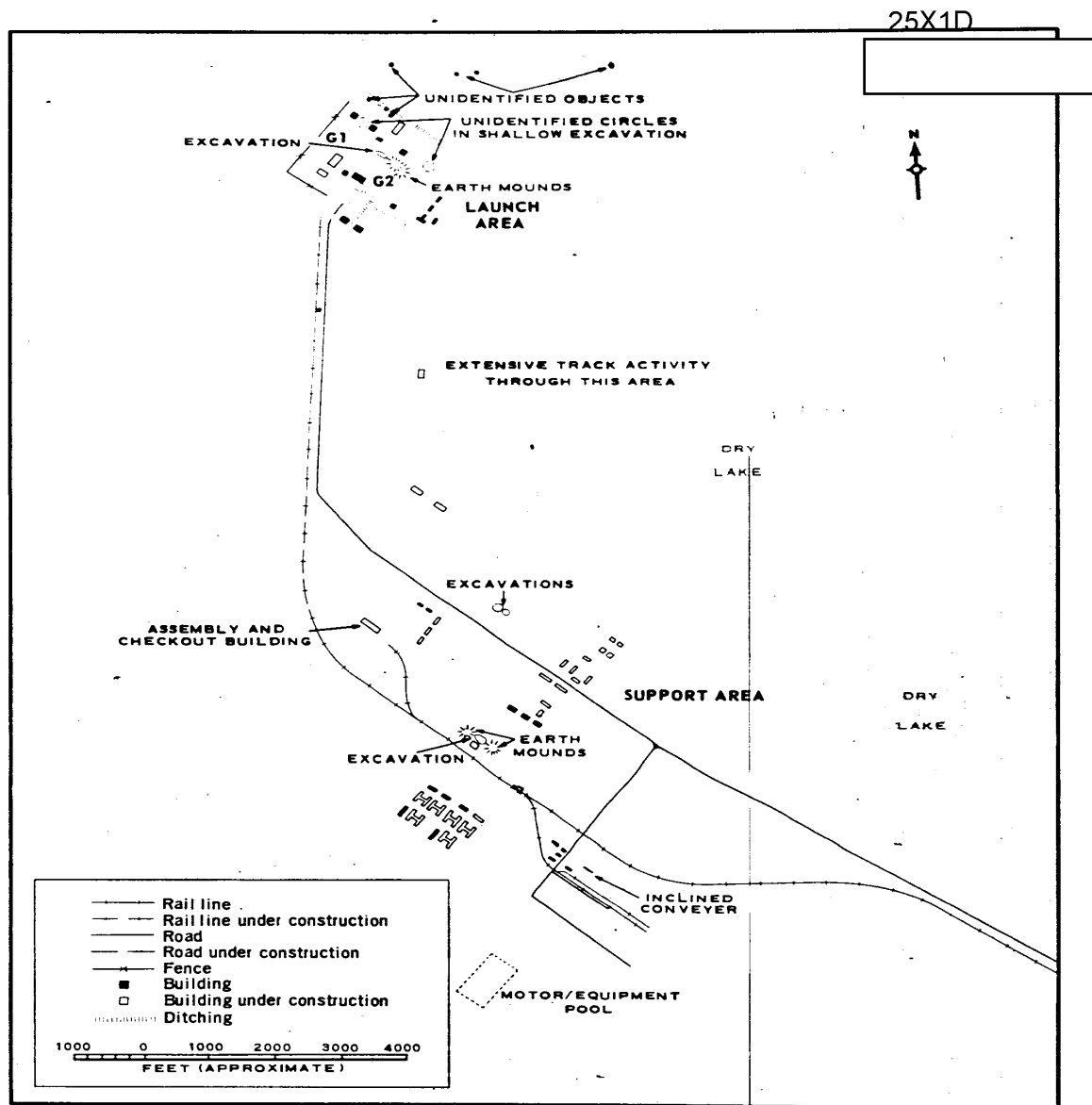


FIGURE 3. CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

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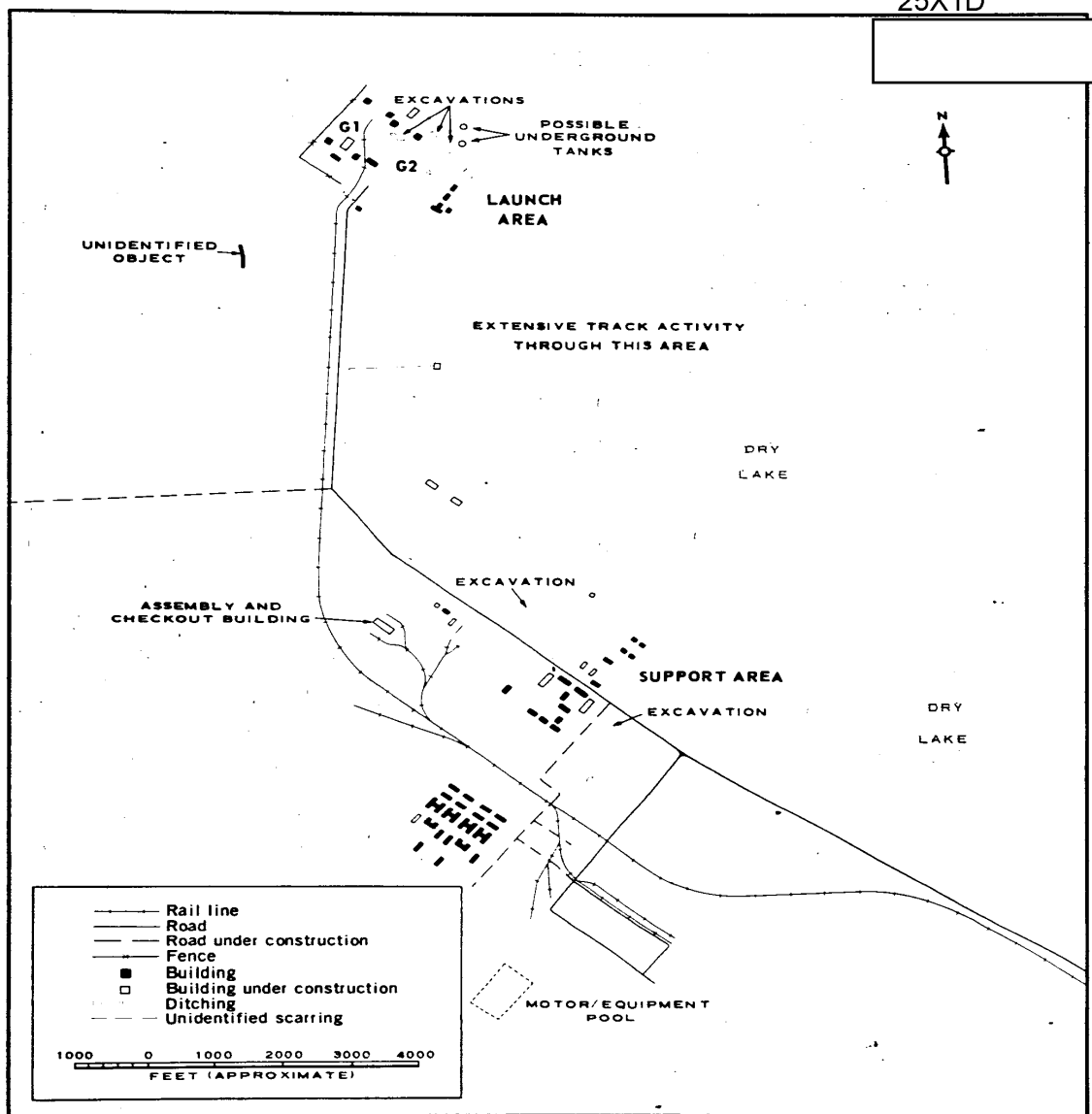


FIGURE 4. CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

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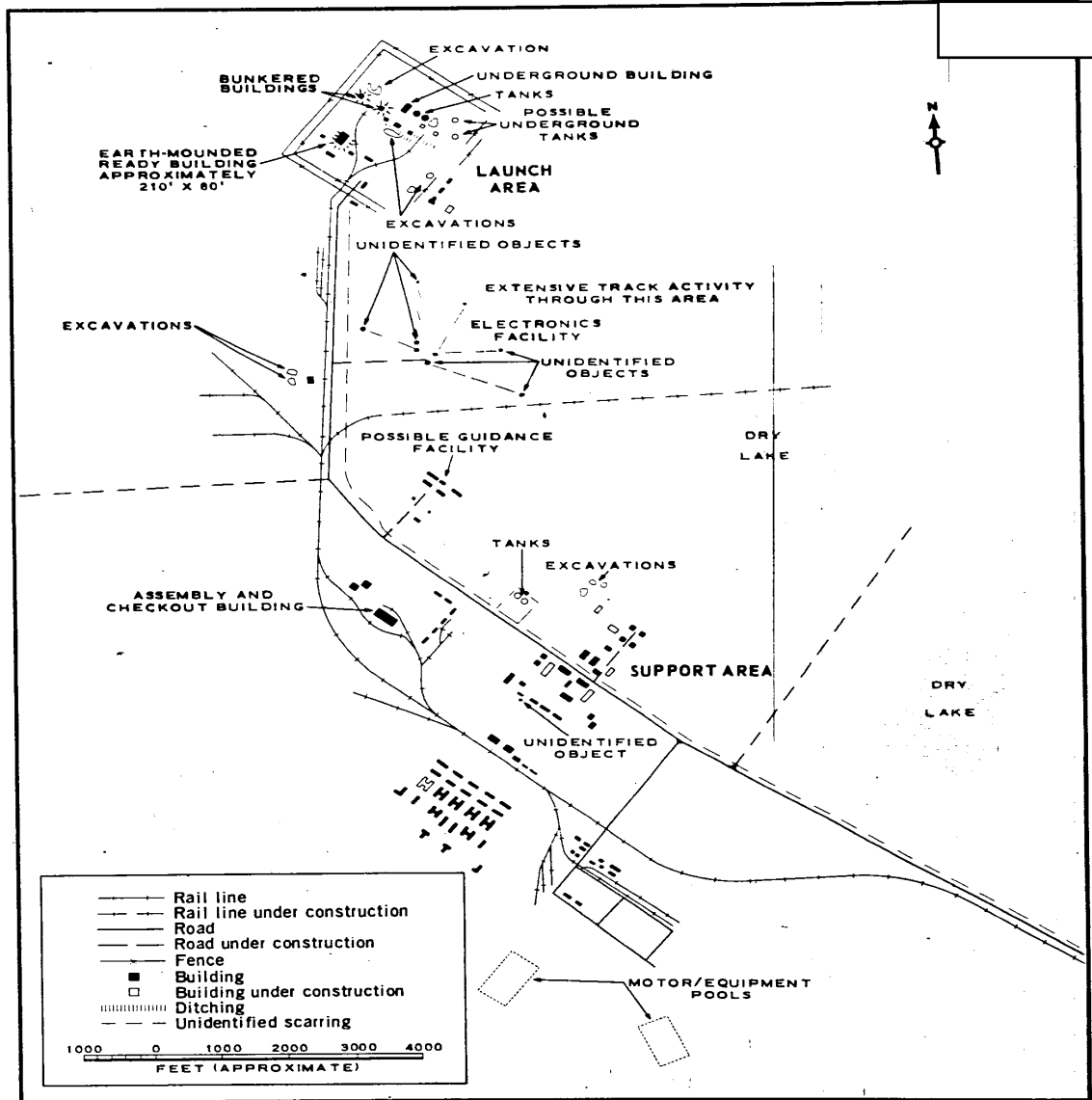


FIGURE 5. CONSTRUCTION PROGRES

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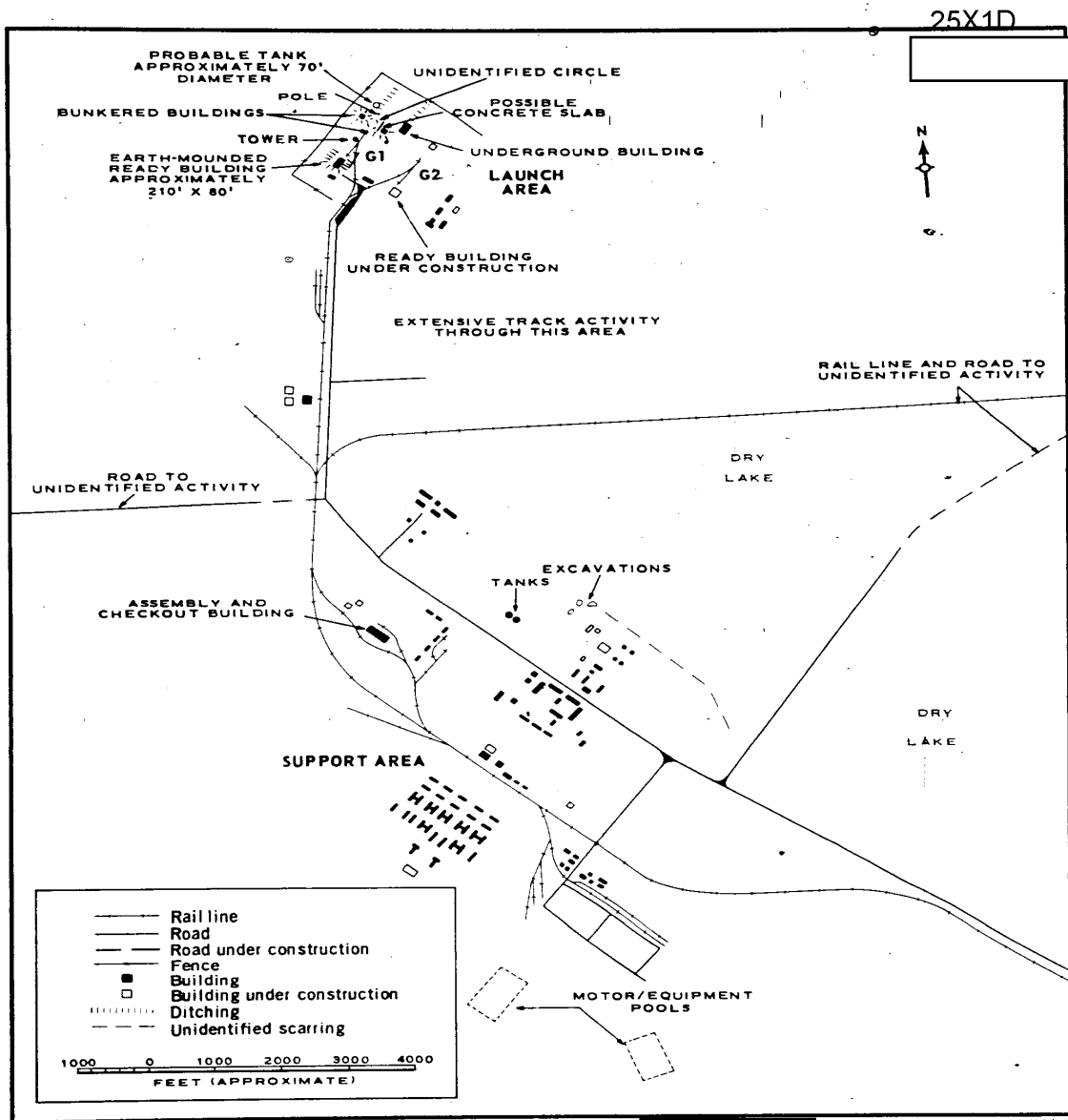


FIGURE 6. CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

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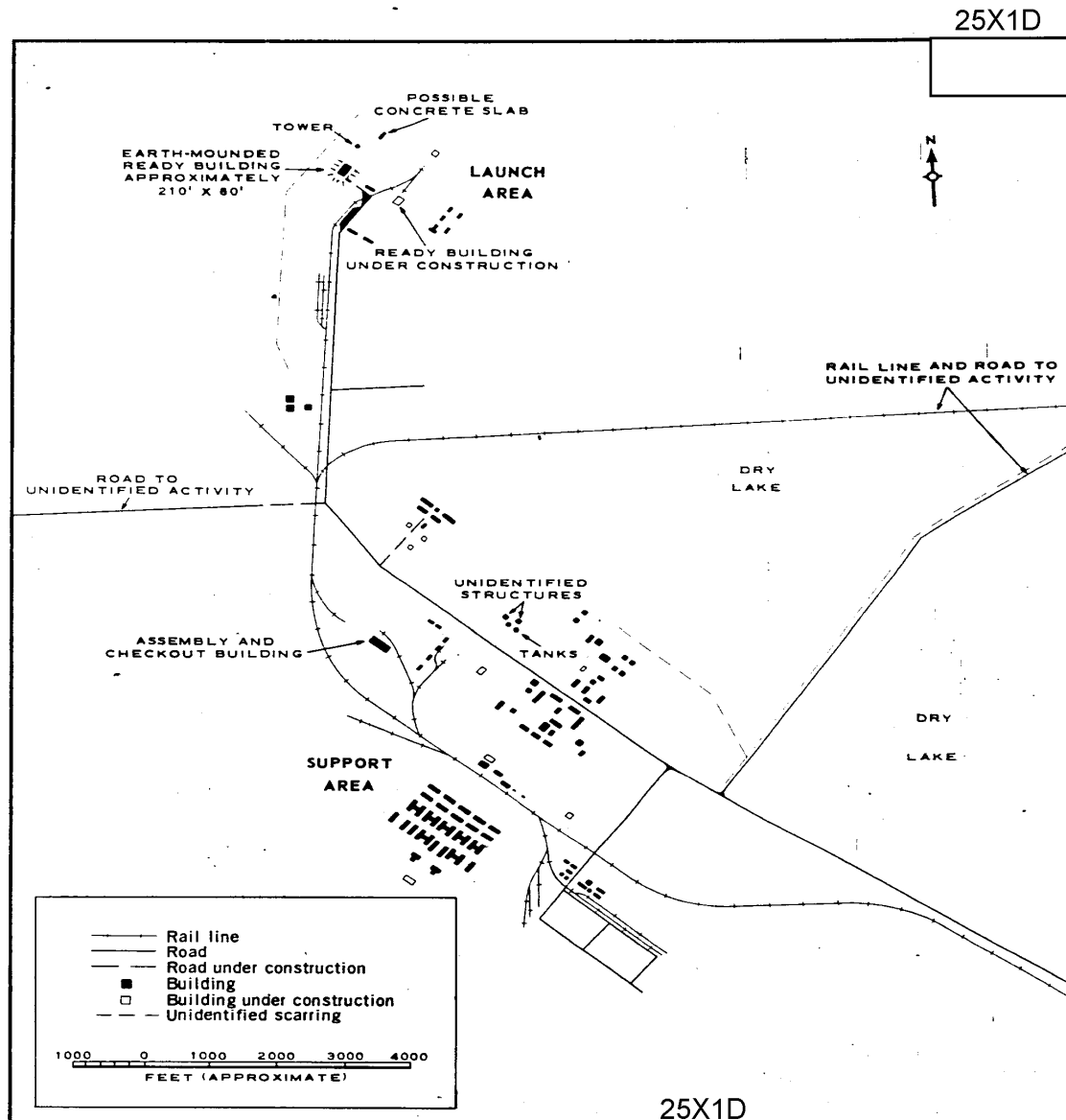


FIGURE 7. CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

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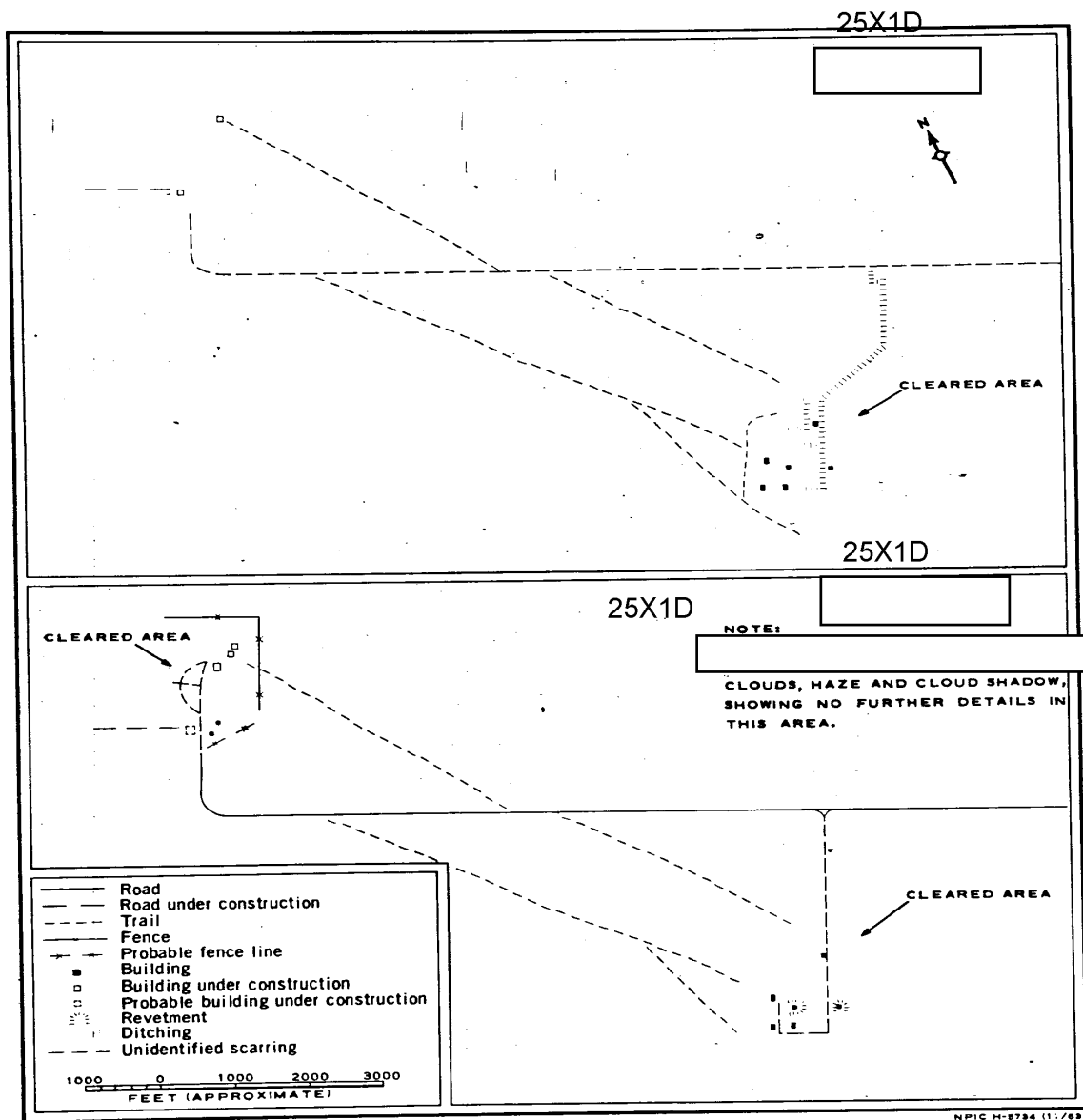


FIGURE 8. AREA OF UNIDENTIFIED ACTIVITY WEST OF COMPLEX G.

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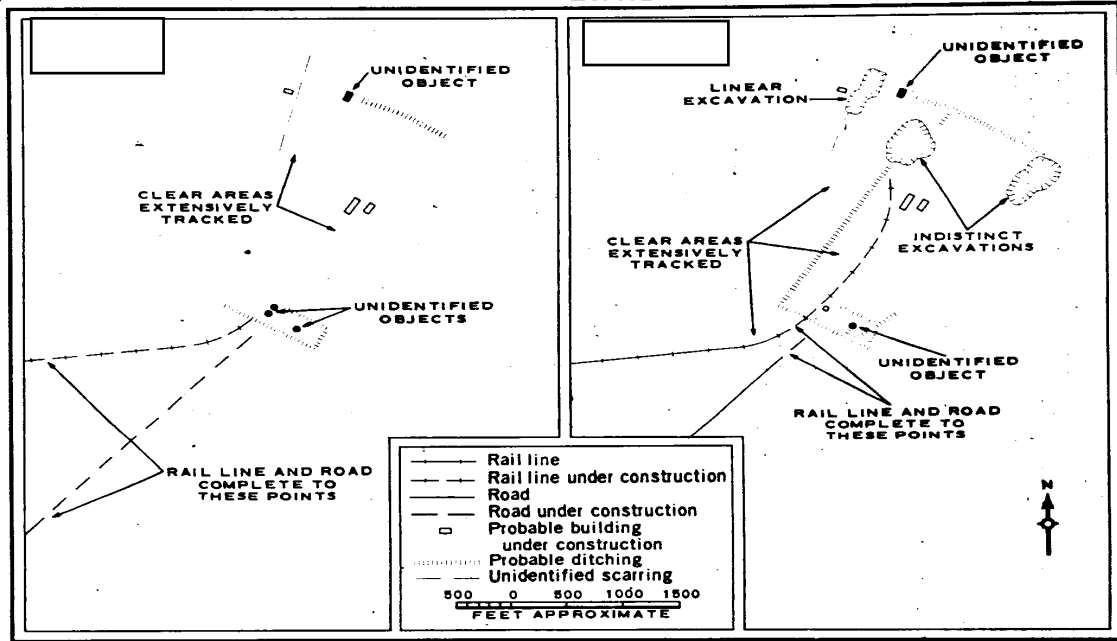


FIGURE 9. AREA OF UNIDENTIFIED ACTIVITY EAST OF COMPLEX G.

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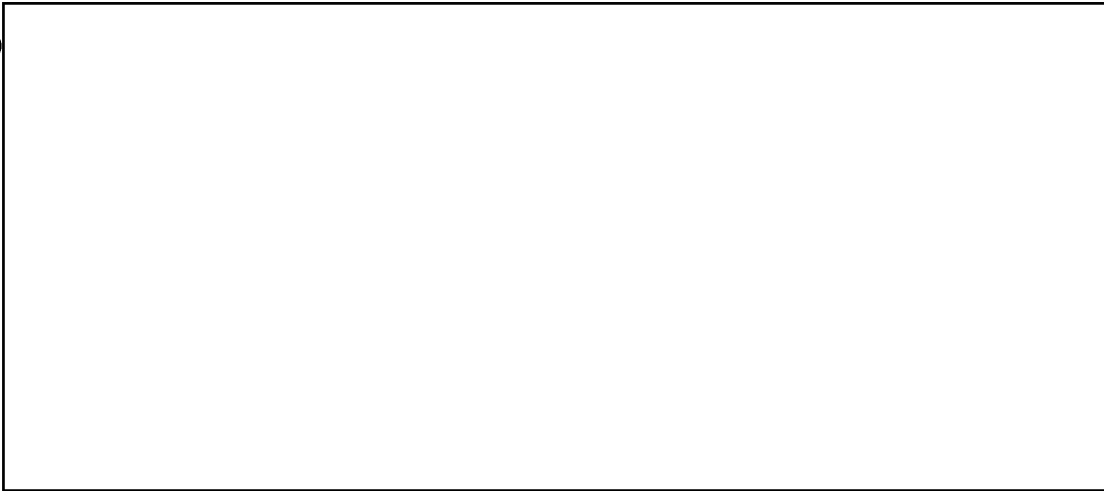
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REFERENCES

PHOTOGRAPHY

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MAPS OR CHARTS

DESPA. Series 1, Sheet NL 41-5, 1st ed, Nov 1962, scale: 1:250,000 (TOP SECRET RUFF)

DOCUMENTS

NPIC. R-85/63, Launch Complex G, Tyura Tam Missile Test Center. USSR, May 63 (TOP SECRET RUFF)

REQUIREMENT

CIA, OSI. C-SI3-80,360

NPIC PROJECT

J-219/63

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